

CLAIMS

1. A flame retardant
which comprises a polymer comprising silicon, boron and
5 oxygen, having a skeleton substantially formed by a
silicon-oxygen bond and a boron-oxygen bond and having an
aromatic ring within the molecule.
2. The flame retardant according to Claim 1,
10 wherein the skeleton of said polymer substantially
comprise an Si-O-Si bond, an Si-O-B bond and a B-O-B bond
and the aromatic ring within the molecule is directly
bonded to a silicon atom.
3. The flame retardant according to Claim 1 or 2,
15 wherein said polymer is a three-dimensionally
crosslinking polymer containing, in the skeleton thereof, an
SiRO_{3/2} unit and a BO_{3/2} unit,
in which R represents a univalent substituent capable of
20 being bonded to a silicon atom and the plurality of R groups
may be the same or different and at least one of the plurality
of R groups is a univalent organic group having an aromatic ring.
4. The flame retardant according to Claim 3,
25 wherein said polymer contains, in the skeleton thereof,
an SiR₃O_{1/2} unit,
in which R represents a univalent substituent capable of
being bonded to a silicon atom and the plurality of R groups
may be the same or different and at least one of the plurality
30 of R groups within the polymer is a univalent organic group
having an aromatic ring.
5. The flame retardant according to Claim 1 or 2,
wherein said polymer is a three-dimensionally
35 crosslinking polymer containing, in the skeleton thereof, an

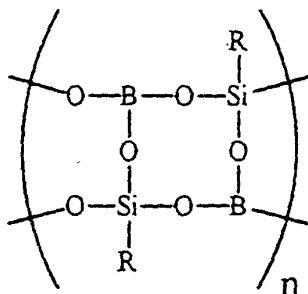
$\text{SiR}_3\text{O}_{1/2}$ unit and a $\text{BO}_{3/2}$ unit,

- in which R represents a univalent substituent capable of being bonded to a silicon atom and the plurality of R groups may be the same or different and at least one of the plurality of R groups within the polymer is a univalent organic group having an aromatic ring.

6. The flame retardant according to Claim 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, wherein said polymer contains no crosslinking substituent within the molecule

- or, when it contains a crosslinking substituent within the molecule, the ratio of a crosslinking substituent and a noncrosslinking substituent (crosslinking substituent/noncrosslinking substituent) ratio among the substituents on silicon atoms and boron atoms in the polymer is less than 1/4.

7. The flame retardant according to Claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, wherein said polymer has the following structure within the molecule:



- in which R represents a univalent substituent capable of being bonded to a silicon atom and the plurality of R groups may be the same or different and at least one of the plurality of R groups is a univalent organic group having an aromatic ring and

8. The flame retardant according to Claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7,

and not lower than 1 g of said polymer is dissolved per 100 ml of the solvent toluene.

9. The flame retardant according to Claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8,

wherein said polymer is obtainable
by mixing one or more boron compounds with one or more
silicon compounds represented by SiR^nX_3 ,

in which R" represents a univalent organic group, X represents one or more selected from among halogen atoms, a hydroxyl group and hydroxyl-derived dehydration condensation products and the plurality of X may be the same or different,

subjecting the mixture to polymerization,
then adding one or more silicon compounds represented by $\text{SiR}''_3\text{X}$, in which R'' and X are as defined above,
and allowing the reaction to proceed.

10. A flame retardant resin composition which contains 100 parts by weight of a resin and 0.1 to 50 parts by weight of the flame retardant according to any of Claims 1 to 9.

11. The flame retardant resin composition according to Claim 10,
wherein the resin is an aromatic resin.

12. The flame retardant resin composition according to Claim 11,
wherein the resin comprises at least one resin selected

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